

## INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF  
31 October 2001

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Training Program-Cameroon

1. Purpose: To provide a summary of the FAO in-country training program and facilities available in Cameroon in order to assist in the preparation of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

### 2. FACTS.

#### a. Summary of Program.

(1) Tour Length: 12 months

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates: January through January of the following year.

(3) Program Description: One FAO conducts ICT in Cameroon each year. The FAO works out of the USDAO at the US Embassy, Yaoundé. The FAO conducts local and regional travel and language studies. The Cameroonian Major's Course (Certificate D'Etat Major) is currently available as a French language immersion vehicle and is four months in duration. A letter requesting admittance to the Minister of Defense and coordination with the French Army OIC at the school are prerequisites necessary before beginning the course. Officer should have detailed travel contingency plans in place in case approval is late/course start is delayed. Course is taught entirely in French and focuses on the current Cameroonian version of the Military Decision Making Process. US doctrinal references for Battalion and Brigade level operations are helpful. Officer will give a one-hour briefing and write numerous papers in French as part of the course. FAO Yaoundé also acts as project officer for Humanitarian Assistance (HA) and Excess Property (EP) programs at the DAO Office. Officer assists USDAO with JCETs and other military to military contacts.

(4) Prerequisites: CPT or MAJ; branch immaterial; French language 2/2/2.

(5) Language Instruction Availability: Tutors are available.

#### b. Property.

(1) Government.

(a) Vehicle: The current station FAO vehicle is a 2000 Mitsubishi Pajero 4x4. This is Government property for use in support of regional travel. The vehicle is for official use only. It is not a substitute for personal transportation.

(b) Furniture: The FAO residence is furnished with State department issued furniture. The living room has a full sized sofa, a loveseat, two stuffed chairs, coffee and end tables. Dining room has a large table with seating for eight. Master bedroom has a queen-sized bed with two chests of drawers and a desk. Two other bedroom have a twin sized bed and chests of drawers. Kitchen is equipped with a microwave and refrigerator. There are two extra refrigerators and one extra freezer in the storage building behind the residence.

(c) Office: The FAO office has a 486 computer with CD-ROM. This computer is not capable of connecting to the Internet but if you have a personal computer, it is possible to connect through the embassy and send e-mail from the FAO house. The FAO office also has a small bedroom with two twin sized beds and drawers to be used by guests if needed.

(2) Personal:

(a) POV: The FAO is authorized shipment of one POV. This is recommended. Normal shipping times is three months, so ship early. Maintenance support for U.S. vehicles is not readily available in Cameroon. If shipping a vehicle it is recommended that this be a Toyota, Nissan, Honda, or Mitsubishi, since maintenance is more easily available for these vehicles. Due to long transport times, FAOs should consider purchasing a used vehicle in country. This can be expensive. Unleaded gas is available in Cameroon. USAA does not insure vehicles in Africa, but the Embassy GSO can help you arrange local coverage.

(b) Household Goods. FAOs are normally authorized partial JFTR, since most furnishings and major appliances are provided. The FAO should bring only personal items, clothing, decorative items such as wall hangings, kitchen and gardening supplies, and entertainment items, such as computers, stereos, and televisions. The Master bedroom and hallways are bare tile floors. Small area rugs are helpful, (6'x8') as is a rug for the hallway. The incoming FAO should contact the resident FAO for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage.

(c) Housing: Government-leased, furnished quarters. Because the Government pays the lease costs, the FAO does not receive OHA/BAQ.

(d) Support Facilities:

(1) Medical: Embassy has medical clinic staffed by a Foreign Service Nurse Practitioner, who has a doctorate in nursing, and a licensed nurse who possesses a degree from a U.S. University. A German physician in town is also used for consultations. There is an American Dentist who is based locally and used by many at the Embassy. The Medical center provides medications and antibiotics when needed including all malaria prophylactics. Any personal medications taken on a regular basis should be included in personal shipments or ordered through the mail. Serious medical care is provided at local hospitals. The nearest U.S. medical facility is in Europe.

(2) Dependent Schooling: The American School in Yaoundé provides English language instruction through Grade 12. An early childhood center provides pre-school education for toilet trained children between ages 2 1/2 to 5. Students attend ASOY from more than 25 different countries and the school offers an after school activities program. Tuition is paid by DODDS. Incoming FAO should contact the resident FAO for registration information as soon as possible. The school website is [www.asoy.org](http://www.asoy.org) and the Director's name is Areta Williams. She can be reached at 237-2-23-04-21.

(3) Commissary Cooperative: The Embassy has a small convenience store with essential US products. Prices are high due to transportation costs. Necessary items should be brought with FAO shipment of HHG. Basic items are available within the local economy. Most families make extensive use of mail order catalogues for non-consumable items.

(4) Recreation. The Community Liaison Office (CLO) offers information and coordinates a wide variety of activities within the local community. The CLO office is now equipped with an Internet capable computer. The CLO can be reached at 237-2-23-40-14 x 4280. The American Club is a recreation center adjacent to the school. Members can join to gain access to the pool, tennis courts and various activities hosted by the Club.

e. Rater/Senior Rater: DATT- Rater  
Chief, FAO Proponent-Senior Rater

f. Incumbent FAO/Departure Date:

CPT Gregory Joachim	0101-0112
CPT Matthew Battiston	0112-0212

g. Address:

(1) Mail- USDAO Yaounde, Department of State, 2520 Yaounde Place, Washington, D.C. 20521-2520

(2) Message- USDAO YAOUNDE CM

h. Phone #: Cml: 011-237-222-03-17  
Fax: 011-237-222-51-89

3. Additional Information:

a. Entry requirements (NOTE: *This information is subject to change. Recommend incoming FAOs check DoD 4500.54G, Foreign Area Clearance Guide and w/sponsor NLT 90 days before PCS*). FAOs and family members require Official (maroon) passports. Visas are required for all FAOs and family members. Health/ immunization requirements: international health certificate showing yellow fever vaccination. Anti-malaria treatment should also be started before arrival on station. A variety of other immunizations are also recommended. See above references.

b. Bring materials for completion of CGSC, and French language materials.

c. Business clothing is Embassy attire. Civilian Clothing Allowance is authorized.

d. Bring Class As and dress blues. BDU's are recommended for certain phases of the Cameroonian Major's Course.

e. Strongly recommend FAOs ship their full allowance of consumables IAW the JTR.

f. Regional Travel Priorities:

Priority 1: Cameroon, South Africa, Nigeria, and Ethiopia.

Priority 2: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d' Ivoire, Ghana, Dem Rep of Congo (when possible), Kenya, Senegal, Togo, Niger, Mali, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

Priority 3: Uganda, Central African Rep, Zambia, and Namibia.

MAJ Grady/703-325-8653  
glen.grady@hoffman.army.mil